

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 IO-14 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03 DRC-01 NIC-01 STR-08

/157 W

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R 120749Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5154

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 12990

DEPT ALSO PASS CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, ETRN, ETRD, SF

SUBJECT: LEBANON SITS OUT ARAB LABOR BOYCOTT

REF: BEIRUT 12829

1. ICATU-DECIDED ARAB LABOR BOYCOTT OF US AND DUTCH SHIPPING, AIR
TRANSPORT, AND GOODS WILL NOT RPT NOT BE CARRIED OUT IN LEBANON AT
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THIS TIME.

2. FOR THE RECORD, ACCORDING TO GOL AND CONFEDERATION OF LEBANESE LABOR (CLL) SOURCES, ICATU HAS EXEMPTED LEBANON FROM APPLYING BOYCOTT PENDING FURTHER "STUDY" OF BOYCOTT'S ADVERSE EFFECTS ON LEBANESE ECONOMY. ICATU SEC GEN ABDELLATIF BALTIE, AND EGYPTIAN, MADE EXEMPTION AFTER VISITING BEIRUT THIS WEEK TO MEET WITH BOTH CLL AND GOL OFFICIALS. THEY TOLD HIM BOYCOTT WOULD COST COUNTRY 90,000 JOBS AND EFFECTIVELY CUT LEBANON'S THROAT IN ECONOMIC TERMS. LEBNESE BELIEVE THEIR CASE WAS CLINCHED, HOWEVER, BY OUTCOME OF US-EGYPTIAN TALKS IN CAIRO, WHICH DECISIVELY UNDERCUT RATIONALE FOR INITIATING BOYCOTT.

3. COMMENT: EXEMPTION GIVES CLL LOOPHOLE IT WANTED AND BARRING SUDDEN RESUMPTION OF ME WAR OR DETERIORATION US POSITION IN ARAB WORLD, WE EXPECT BOYCOTT THREAT CAN NOW BE LAID TO REST IN LEBANON. OUR LEBANESE SOURCES UNABLE FURNISH DETAILS AS TO WHETHER OR NOT DECISION ON EMBARGO WILL ACTUALLY BE IMPLEMENTED IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES.
BUFFUM

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005